

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace paragraph [0002] of the published application with the following amended paragraph:

[0002] This invention relates to a balloon catheter suited for use with a guiding wire that passes through a guiding wire lumen of the catheter shaft from the proximal end to the distal end and through a balloon.

Please replace paragraph [0002] of the published application with the following amended paragraph:

[0008] It is an object of the present invention to provide a balloon catheter of the over-the-wire type ~~as mentioned, which makes it possible to create an over-the-wire catheter~~ having a higher pushability.

Please replace paragraph [0031] of the published application with the following amended paragraph:

[0031] As shown in FIG. 1, the catheter shaft 2 comprises a portion 10 extending from the proximal end 5, said portion being provided with a reinforcing pipe 11 made of metal or plastics. It is also possible that the reinforcing pipe is made of metal and is provided with an inner coating 19 made of plastics, which is preferable for decreasing ~~the~~ friction.

Please replace the paragraph [0036] of the published application with the following amended paragraph:

[0036] As an alternative to the embodiments of FIGS. 1 to 4, it is conceivable that the portion 10 as a whole is formed as a metal pipe, i.e. not consisting of two concentric pipes, as shown in FIGS. 3 and 4. In this case, the metal pipe 11 has a massive cross section in which a

longitudinal borehole is made for forming the lumen 8 and an adjacent borehole is made for forming the lumen 9. In another embodiment which is basically conceivable, the plastic pipe (which would correspond to the portion 20 being designated with a dotted arrow in FIG. 1) ensuing the metal pipe is also formed as a pipe with a massive cross section, in which corresponding boreholes are provided for the continuation of lumen 8 or 9.